Mackenzie, Arthur Stanley [President, Dalhousie University] Feb.-April 1916 (57)

February 5th, 1916

President Mackenzie,

Dalhousie University.

My dear Mackenzie:

You will have doubtless received a communication from the Secretary of the Council of Higher Instruction, Newfoundland, asking for tenders for the work of conducting their Senior Associate in Arts examination. It is a curious request, and seems to me not very desirable for us to come into competition with you and McGill in the matter, but we should like to help the Newfoundland people in any way possible, especially as many of their students come to Victoria College. It has occurred to me that we might arrange a joint board of Dalhousie, McGill and Toronto to conduct these examinations and so set a standard for them which would be particularly a Canadian standard. I shall have to lay the communication before our Senate at its meeting next Friday evening, and if you approve of my suggestion I will propose it to our Senate as a solution. I am also writing to Principal Peterson of McGill in the same line.

Yours sincerely,

President.

February 12th, 1916

President Mackenzie,

Dalhousie University.

My dear Mackenzie:

I am glad to get your telegram. Last night our Senate approved of the principle of a joint board and I have this morning written to Newfoundland suggesting that as it would carry more prestige to them and would be something of a national act on our part it would be more satisfactory than work done by one university. Sir William Peterson, however, does not think that it will work, and he has made a definite offer from McGill.

I am appointing a committee to look into details and the suggestions that you have given me in your telegram I will lay before that committee.

My own strong feeling is that we are all interested in Newfoundland and it might look better to have the whole affair conducted in a national rather than an individual way, and I do not think it is unworkable. I will let you hear later.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

259

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
HALIFAX, N.S.
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 18, 1916.

President R. A. Falconer,
The University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear Falconer:

I duly received your letter telling me about the action of your Senate on the question of a joint board for the examinations for Newfoundland. I am glad that you approve of it and hope that the matter can be arranged. I cannot understand Peterson's feeling that it will not work. I do not see why it should not. We are having a final meeting tomorrow morning on the matter, and I suppose we shall have to give an individual answer to the authorities at Newfoundland, but at the same time we shall recommend them strongly to go in for the joint board idea. As soon as your Committee has dealt with the matter and has some suggestions as to detail, please let us have them.

With all good wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

A. Stanley MacKenzie

ASM/C. President.

	Arts	Medicine	Applied Sc.	Education	Household Sc.	Forestry
Session and Examination	Sept. 28 - Dec. 17 Jan. 4 - May 23	Sept. 28 - Dec. 17 Jan. 4 - May 27	Sept. 28 - Dec. 17 Jan. 4 - May Ist	Sept. 28 - Dec. 17 Jan. 4 - May 15	Sept. 28 - Dec. 17 Jan. 4 - May 23	Sept. 28 - Dec. 17 Jan. 4 - May Ist
Weeks of teaching M.T.	11½ weeks	11½ weeks	11½ weeks	11½ weeks	11½ weeks	11½ weeks
Weeks of teaching E.T.	16 "	17 "	13½ "	16 "	16 "	16 "
Period of final examination	17 days	10 days	15 days	12 days		10 days
Student occupations and financial returns	Impossible to estimate, has varied very greatly " " " " " " "					
	Some men have lost money while others have made over $1000. in a single summer. It is true, however, that a large proportion, probably over 50% of our students earn some portion of the cost of their education.					
Summer Session	What does it mean? The complete work of a session or a limited number of courses of instruction?					
Longer Session	As yet undesirable for Toronto					

would appreciate it very much if you would be good enough to have some member of your administrative staff give us the particulars asked for where available. We would also further appreciate any opinions on the general question which you will be good enough to give us:-

(Give data for each faculty, if different)

1. What is the length of your session, from date of registration to last day of examinations?

2. What is the number of teaching weeks in your session?

3. What is the number of days devoted to examination in each session?

4. Could you give a rough estimate of the percentage of students who engage in occupations for pay during the summer vacation? Also some indication of the average amount earned by each student in one summer vacation.

5. Do you think the length of the session should be changed? Please give brief statement of reasons for your argument.

6. Do you think it advisable to have a summer session? If so, of what length? Please state argument briefly.

Faithfully yours,

H. Stanley MacKenzie

President

ASM/C.

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
HALIFAX, N.S.
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 25, 1916.

President R. A. Falconer,
University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear President Falconer:

Our present fourth year Medical students have petitioned that their fifth annus medicus follow immediately on top of their fourth, that is, begin May 1st and end at the end of December, and that they then be given their examinations and degrees.

Last December Dean Chown of the Manitoba Medical College wrote that their students had petitioned for this very same thing and asked what we had done, and said that he was writing to all the other Medical Schools in Canada to find their opinion so that all might act alike. In writing to him that we had not considered that matter but one somewhat similar and had refused to shorten to any material extent the time required for the Medical degree, I asked him to tell me the consensus of opinion of the other Medical Schools, when he learned it. In his reply I gathered that the other Universities had refused to take this action.

Some of our fourth year students have told me today that Toronto and Queen's University have definitely determined to give a Medical summer session next year. I would appreciate very much if you would tell me just what your Medical Faculty has determined to do in the case of such petitions as this. About a fortnight ago we also received a circular letter sent from Colonel Potter at Ottawa, asking whether we were going to take such action, but it gave no indications as to whether the Medical Department at Ottawa thought that there was an urgency that would justify such action. Our feeling is that if there is any emergency calling for such action we would give it very favourable consideration, but if there is no urgency, it seems a pity to dislocate the Medical educational system to this extent.

With all good wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

A. Stanley MacBride

President.

ASM/C.

February 28th, 1916

President Stanley Mackenzie,

Dalhousie University.

My dear President Mackenzie:

The University of Toronto decided a few weeks ago at the request of the Militia Department to hold a fifth year this summer for medical students who are completing their fourth year in the spring. It is our intention to begin on the first of May and to carry it through to the end of November. Those who will graduate at the end of November will then be ready to take appointments on active service. All our fourth year have signified their intention of taking this year and I believe that they are all ready to go on active service at its close. Such as do not will not receive their diploma until next spring.

It will probably be necessary for us also to have a fifth year as usual next winter in order to meet the cases of those who are sent back by the War Office to complete their fifth year. This action of the University is due to the emergency of the present situation though undoubtedly it is causing a great deal of inconvenience and is putting a heavy burden upon our staff.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

March 9th, 1916

President A. S. Mackenzie,

Dalhousie University.

My dear President Mackenzie:

I am sending you an enclosure containing answers to your questions, which I hope will meet your requirements. We have a Summer Session of five or six weeks in length beginning July 1st. This, however, is meant for teachers and others who are unable to attend the regular course. With it we combine instruction by correspondence. That is to say, those who have attended the Summer Session have the oversight of their teachers during the ensuing winter. This course is entered upon at the second year by those who hold certificates of entry into the Faculty of Education. Four subsequent Summer Sessions are necessary for the degree. We recommend that the last year of their course at least should be the full regular year.

Yours sincerely,

President.

251

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
HALIFAX, N.S.
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 13, 1916.

President R. A. Falconer,
University of Toronto,
T o r o n t o, Ontario.

My dear Dr. Falconer;

I have just received your answers to the questions that I sent you on behalf of the Committee of the Conference of Universities, relative to the length of session at our Canadian Universities. I wish to express my sincere appreciation of the trouble which you have taken in giving consideration to the matter, and assure you that the information which you have given me will be of great assistance to the Committee.

I remain,

Faithfully yours,

A. Stanley MacKenzie

President.

ASM/C.

April 11th, 1916

President A. S. Mackenzie,

Dalhousie University,

Halifax.

My dear Mackenzie:

Last year I sent notices only to the Universities which are mentioned in the Year Book of the Universities of the Empire. In Nova Scotia they were: Acadia, Dalhousie, King's and St. Francis Xavier. In New Brunswick: Fredericton and Sackville.

I do not know why we did not invite Creelman from Guelph, though possibly it might have been a wise thing to do. If Cumming is invited certainly Creelman should be inasmuch as Guelph is our branch of agricultural education, though not intimately related to us as the Faculties are in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

It is more difficult to know what to say about Sexton. If he were invited why should not Mackay of the Technical High School of Toronto be invited, or the Director of Technical Education from the Province of Ontario ? These difficulties did not occur to me as I thought of it as being a Conference of Universities only and adhered rigidly to that principle.

I am sorry to see by the newspapers that you are to lose Todd. I hope that it is merely a temporary loan for munitions work to Great Britain.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

April 24th, 1916

President A. Stanley Mackenzie,

Dalhousie University.

My dear Mackenzie:

I will notify the heads of Trinity, Victoria and St. Michael's College of the meeting in Montreal. I assume that each of these will be given one representative and that I am at liberty to nominate two, besides myself, to represent the University as a whole.

Yours sincerely,

President.